

Braley Statement on Earthquake, Recovery Efforts in Haiti

Urges Iowans to
help in any way possible

Washington, DC — Rep Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) issued the following statement today on the recovery and relief efforts currently underway in Haiti. The country was devastated by a large earthquake earlier this week.

“Like many Iowans, I have closely followed the stories about the destruction and damage in Haiti. They are devastating and tragic. I want to offer my thoughts and prayers for those who have lost their lives, those who remain missing, and the friends and families who are still holding out hope that their loved ones are safe. Here in Washington, the federal government has pledged its full support for the people of Haiti, launching a swift and coordinated response that includes the assistance of our armed forces and relief workers.

“More important, and more inspiring, than federal assistance has been the overwhelming outpouring of support that America’s citizens have already expressed, and continue to express. In times of tragedy, Americans have always risen to help those who need our assistance in their greatest hour of need. We saw that outpouring of support in Iowa during the disasters of 2008, and while many of our friends and neighbors suffered catastrophic losses, these efforts provided many Iowans with some comfort and warmth in a very difficult time.

“As the people of Haiti continue to recover from this disaster, it is increasingly important that we do what we can to help. There are many ways that Iowans can make a big difference in this crisis, either by making a small donation or donating your time to agencies like the Red Cross. For more information about how you can help, please visit my website at <http://Braley.house.gov>.”

To help Iowans interested in helping with relief efforts or who are trying to locate friends and family in Haiti, Braley has compiled the following information:

Relatives

Families of Americans living in Haiti who are trying to find the status of their loved ones are encouraged to contact the State Department at 1-888-407-4747. This line is experiencing a high volume of calls at this time, so some callers may receive a recording. To better handle these requests, the State Department has established an e-mail address as well: Haiti-Earthquake@state.gov.

A top priority of the State Department is accounting for the thousands of American citizens who are currently in Haiti. US citizens in Haiti have been urged to contact the Embassy via email at ACSPaP@state.gov to request assistance or call the Embassy's Consular Task Force at 509-2229-8942, 509-2229-8089, 509-2229-8322, or 509-2229-8672.

The Red Cross has also set up a Family Links website managed by the ICRC, in cooperation with the tracing services of the Haitian Red Cross Society and of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies throughout the world, to assist in the process of restoring contact between separated family members.

Assistance for Haiti Relief Efforts

The State Department has established a dedicated web page that offers advice for anyone wishing to provide assistance to those affected by the earthquake:

State Department
[Haiti Earthquake website](#)

The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) provides information and guidance in support of appropriate international disaster relief:

Center for
[International Disaster Information \(CIDI\) website](#)